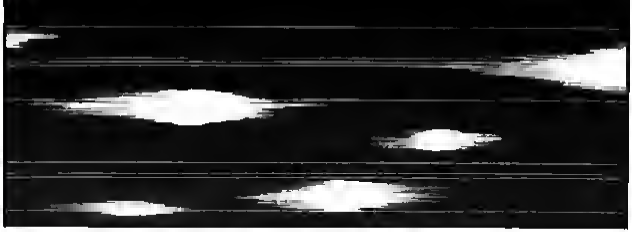
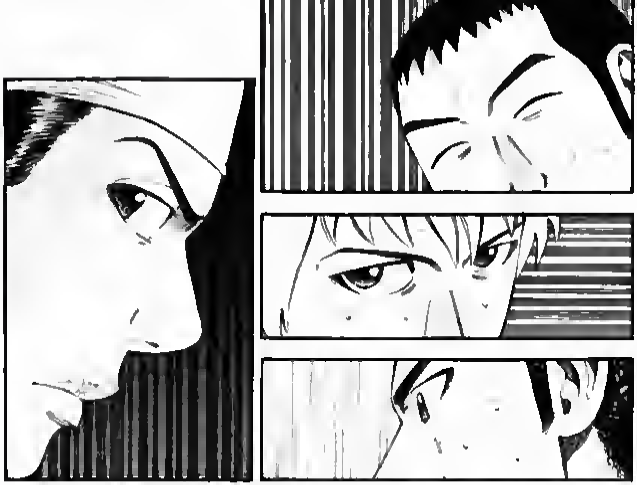


MARQUEE

Sfx Aaaa

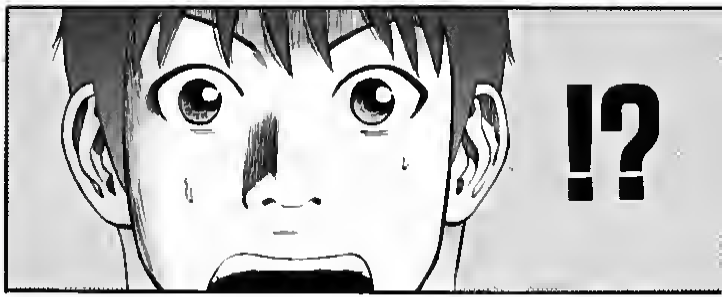
ENCORE!
ENCORE!
RYUU-SUKE!!
CHIBA !!
KOYUKI !!
THIS IS QUITE A RESPON-SE.
WHICH SONGS FOR THE ENCORE ?
"TABA-SCO" AND —
Sfx Waaaa



Sfx Screeeeeech

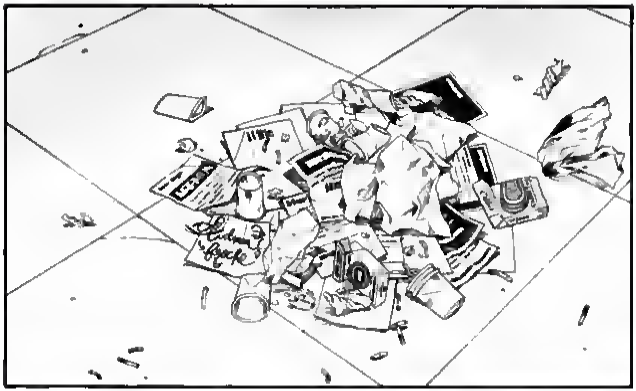
!?
STOP
STOP!!

DID YOU TUNE IT PROPERLY ?
DON'T YOU THINK THE SOUND IS OFF?

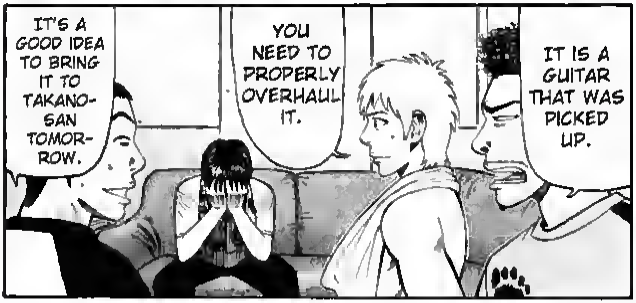

!?

IT DOESN'T SOUND RIGHT. PLAY AN A.
HUH?... WELL...

WHAT IS IT? WHAT IS IT?
JUST WHEN IT WAS GETTING GOOD...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
I DON'T REALLY KNOW, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE KOYUKI-KUN IS GETTING SCOLDED.
THIS SCENE OCCURS ALL TOO OFTEN.
Noise
Noise
IT'S OFF
I KIND OF HAD AN UNEASY FEELING DURING REHEARSAL.
THE OCTAVE PITCH ON THAT GUITAR IS OFF.
HUH?
NOISE
IN THE VERY END, THE EXCITE-MENT WAS SPOILED.
NOISE
LAME
NOISE



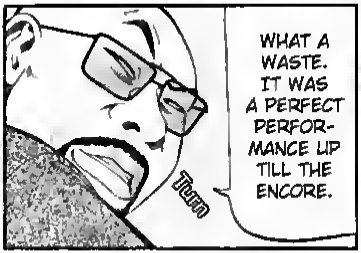
関係者以外
立入禁止
STAFF ONLY
Staff only


IT'S A GOOD IDEA TO BRING IT TO TAKANO-SAN TOMOR-ROW.
YOU NEED TO PROPERLY OVERHAUL IT.
IT IS A GUITAR THAT WAS PICKED UP.

DON'T EVER REPEAT THAT SHIT AGAIN.
DON'T EVER USE THAT IN A LIVE!
IT'S BETTER TO BUY A NEW ONE THAN TO FIX IT.

MAN, I'M VERY SORRY.

KURODA-SAN!


WHAT A WASTE. IT WAS A PERFECT PERFOR-MANCE UP TILL THE ENCORE.
Tsun

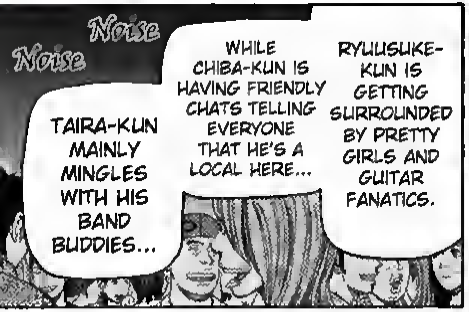
THEY ALL CAME TO APOLOGIZE EARLIER.
THEY LACK A SENSE OF SENSI-BILITY ...

I'LL BE FRANK. TO THE FANS, TODAY'S LIVE WAS A FAILURE.

HOWEVER, THEY WILL COME BY AGAIN.
ESPECIALLY AT THE RIGHT MOMENT!
IT'S DIFFICULT TO EXPLAIN, BUT EVEN THOUGH THEY FAILED A LOT, THEY HAVE THE POWER TO BECOME PERFECT.

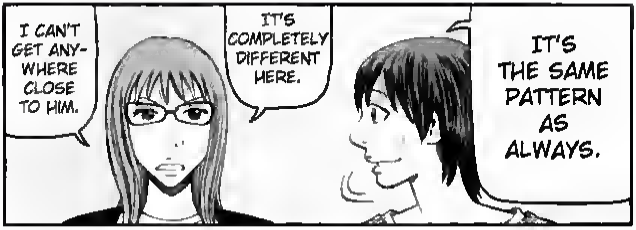
I DON'T CARE WHAT GOES ON WITH BECK.
I'M GOING TO MOVE TO THE COUNTRY-SIDE BACK IN MY HOME TOWN.
shoo
shoo
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

Noise
Noise


Noise
Noise
TAIRA-KUN MAINLY MINGLES WITH HIS BAND BUDDIES...
WHILE CHIBA-KUN IS HAVING FRIENDLY CHATS TELLING EVERYONE THAT HE'S A LOCAL HERE...
RYUUSUKE-KUN IS GETTING SURROUNDED BY PRETTY GIRLS AND GUITAR FANATICS.

HMM
M.

AND THEN SAKU-CHAN AND KOYUKI-KUN ARE PACKING UP ...


I CAN'T GET ANY-WHERE CLOSE TO HIM.
IT'S COMPLETELY DIFFERENT HERE.
IT'S THE SAME PATTERN AS ALWAYS.

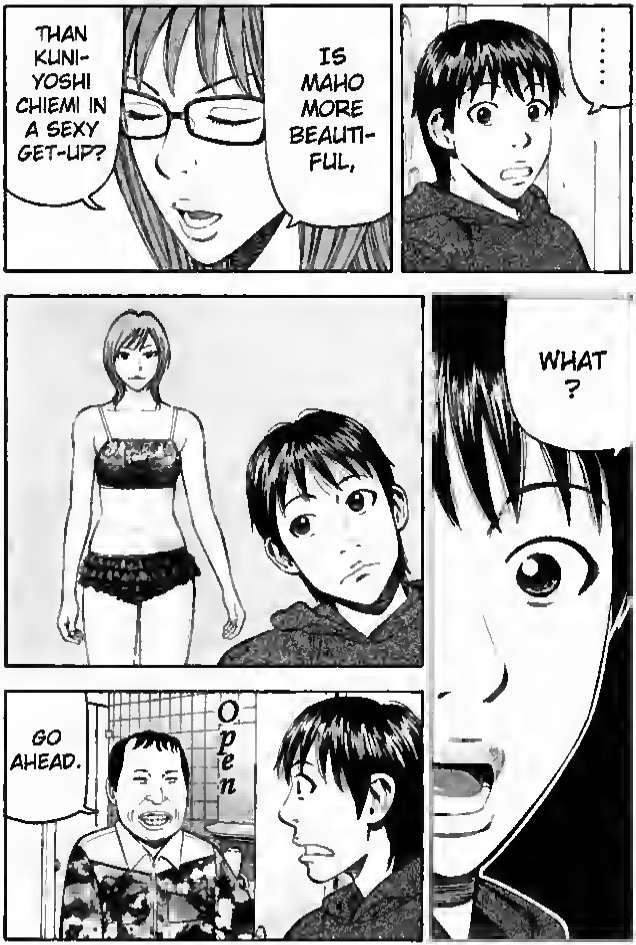
Noise
Noise
Noise
LIVERPOO

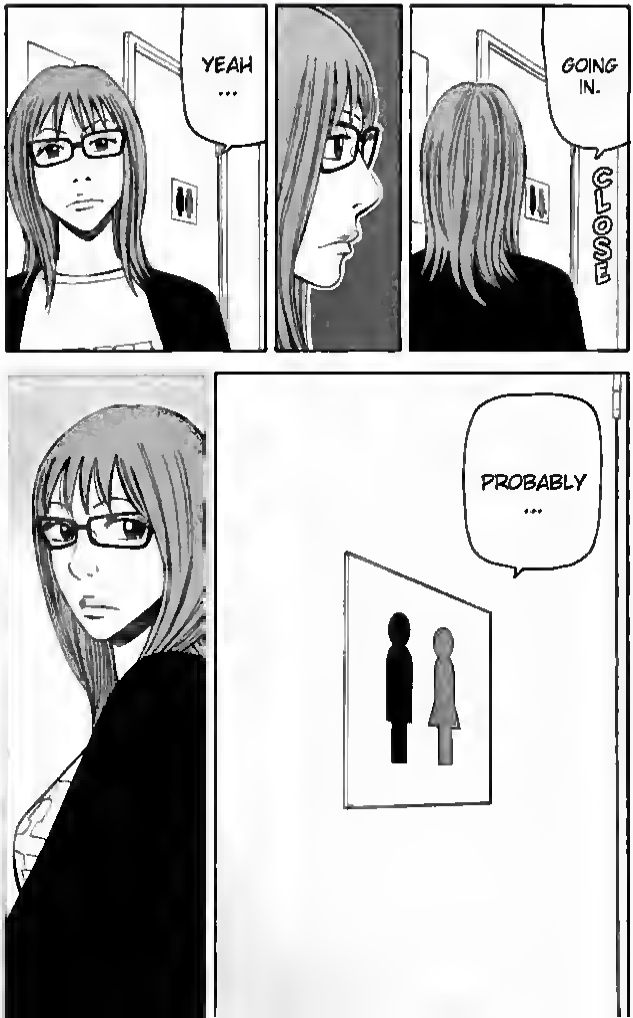
I-I'm sorry.

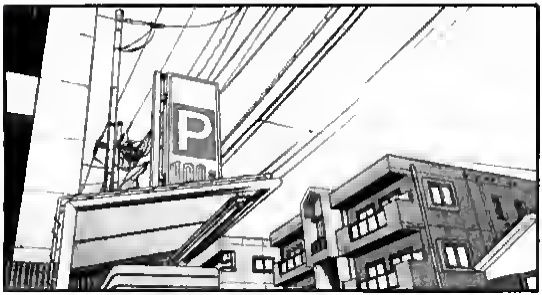
The Cheapest Restaurant 120yen around here
居酒屋 左慈
TAVERN SAJI
TO BECK'S FUTURE, CHEERS !!
IT'S MOST LIKELY JIM WALSH'S EFFECT.
WHO CARES IF WE HAVE A TOAST SEVERAL TIMES?
LOTS OF HAPPY THINGS ARE HAPPEN-ING.
AGAIN ?
NOISE
NOISE
SLUMP
I-I'M GOING TO USE THE TOILET.
Thump
TODAY'S LIVE SUCKED THOUGH.

IT MIGHT JUST BE ME,
LIVERPOOL
KNOCK KNOCK
knock knock
YOU LOOKED MORE LIKE YOU WERE IN A PANIC.
Noise
Noise
BUT WHEN YOU WERE SURROUNDED BY FAN GIRLS,
SMILE
WHAT ?

THAT GUY DIDN'T CARE WHAT FAN GIRL CAME TO HIM. HE PLAYS WITH ALL OF THEM... ALL THE TIME.
MY EX-BOY-FRIEND WAS IN A BAND.
WHAT KIND OF GIRL IS MAHO?
HUH ?
DURING THE SHOOT FOR THE MUSIC VIDEO, CHIBA-KUN SAID "JUST FORGET ABOUT MAHO AND GO FOR KUNIYOSHI CHIEMI".
AND THEN, YOU RESPONDED WITH, "W-WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?", DIDN'T YOU?


THAN KUNI-YOSHI CHIEMI IN A SEXY GET-UP?
IS MAHO MORE BEAUTI-FUL,
.....
WHAT ?
GO AHEAD.
Open


YEAH ...
GOING IN.
CLOSE
PROBABLY ...


P

WOW. THIS IS ALL SURREAL.
LET'S DO WELL TODAY.
NOD
NOD

I'M THE CAMERA-MAN, KISHIDA KIPPEI.
HELLO.

KISHIDA KIPPEI... I'VE HEARD YOUR NAME SOME-WHERE.

WHEN A BIG ARTIST ARRIVES IN JAPAN, RECORD COMPANIES AND MUSIC MAGAZINES USUALLY ASK FOR HIS SERVICES.
NOT ONLY FOR OUR MAGAZINE COMPANY, BUT HE ALSO HAS GREAT ACCOMPLISHMENTS FROM OTHER PLACES TOO.
Don't let them get carried away.
Y-You're over exaggerating.
H-HE'S AMAZING ...
I TOOK PICTURES OF THE LIVE AT THE MARQUEE THE OTHER DAY.
NO, NO. THAT'S NOT TRUE!!
THEN WHY DO YOU CHOSE US AS PHOTOGRAPHY SUBJECTS? WE'RE SHORT ON MEMBERS.
MY FIRST IMPRESSION, I FELT ...

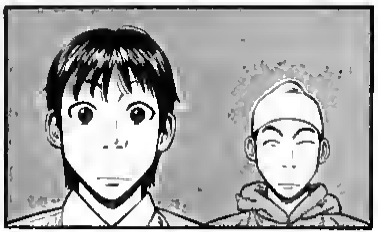
SOME SORT OF "ALL THE MEMBERS UNITING TO GO AGAINST THE ENTIRE WORLD"...
THAT'S THE KIND OF AURA YOU GUYS EMANATE.

NO, NO. I'M SERIOUS!
Y-YOU'RE OVER EXAG-GERAT-ING.

G-GO AHEAD.
THAT'S SO COOL. CAN I USE THAT LINE?

OH, YEAH. I'LL ALSO NEED DETAILED TESTIMONIALS FROM BAND ASSOCIATES AND THOSE WHOM THEY HAVE WORKED WITH AS WELL...
FIRST, WE WILL GO FOR A PHOTO SHOOT. THEN AFTER THAT, WE HAVE AN INTERVIEW ARRANGED.
I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO GET IN CONTACT WITH SAITOU-SAN, THE PERSON KOYUKI-KUN NOMINATED.
!

Will be closed for a while.
Please leave me alone.



SAITOU PRINTING

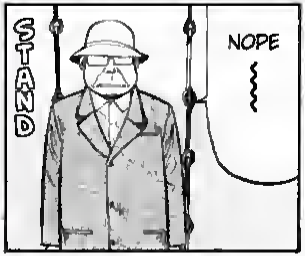
SAITOU-SAN IS MY GUITAR TEACHER !!

YOU SHOULD GET SOMEONE ELSE TO SPEAK.
Slide
Slide
NO, NO. IT GOT TO BE SAITOU-SAN.

BUT HE'S NOWHERE TO BE FOUND THOUGH...

江田公園
Huh
Text: Eda Park
AH!
Huh
Huh
Why me?

OH. YOU WATCH ALL SORTS OF MOVIES.
YOU LOOK AS IF YOU'VE BEEN DIAGNOSED WITH STOMACH CANCER AND WITH NOT MUCH TIME TO LIVE.
WHAT'S WRONG, SAITOU-SAN?!
TAP
TAP

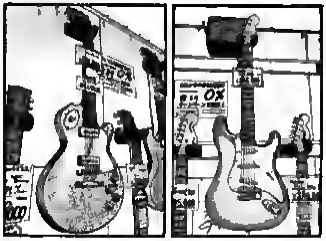

STAND
NOPE

DID YOU SEE THE FAX FROM A PERSON NAMED SHIRATORI-SAN, FROM SOLID ROCK?
Huh
Huh

W-WAIT A SECOND.
WE HAVE TO RECORD IT WITH THE RECORDER SHIRATORI-SAN LENT US.
ABOUT KOYUKI-KUN, EH...?

WE NEED AROUND 150 WORDS COMMENT ABOUT KOYUKI FROM YOU.

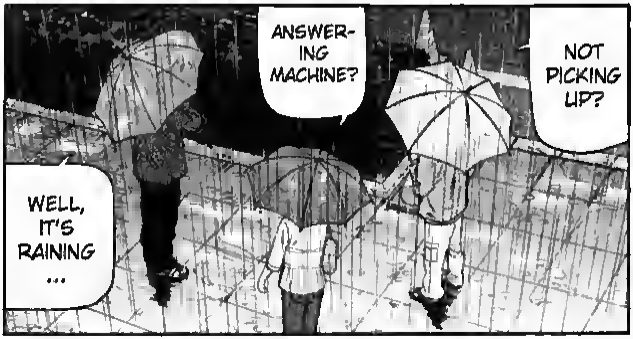
A TEACHER FROM HIS SCHOOL CAME TO WARN ME...
HE WASN'T ALOUD TO WORK, BUT HE DID LITTLE CHORES AT MY PLACE...
THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM WAS WHEN HE WAS STILL IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
Sit
SLIDE
THAT'S WHEN MOMO-CHAN AND I...
!!
S-
LAM
Roll
Roll
Roll
SAKU !!



Text. Ingvey
Musical
Instruments

WOW. HE SEEMS BUSY.
TAKANAO-SAN ISN'T HERE TODAY.
HE'S IN KYUUSHUU ON TOUR WITH CRAZY TRAINS.
Smile
Smile
THE TRUTH IS, I WANTED TO DISCUSS WITH HIM ABOUT THIS GUITAR...
DO YOU WANT ME TO CALL YOU WHEN HE GETS BACK?
OH. PLEASE.
PLEASE WRITE YOUR ADDRESS AND PHONE NUMBER ON THIS PAPER..
OH. OKAY.
Smile
MIGHT BE CLOSE TO THE DAY HE CUTS HIS HAIR.

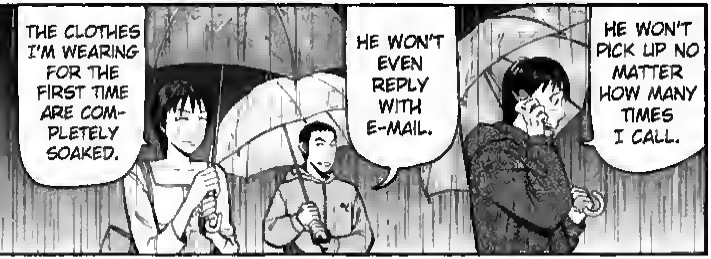
CHINESE BOOKIE WAS INVOLVED IN MANY EVENTS.


ANSWER-ING MACHINE?
NOT PICKING UP?
WELL, IT'S RAINING ...

You're not in the guest list.
NOT A VERY SOCIAL FELLA.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? I ASKED AS TANAKA X3...

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
WE HAVE TO FIND YUUTA.
FIND HIM? WE CAN'T EVEN GET INSIDE.
HALL

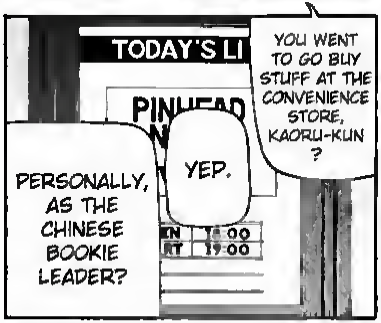

THE CLOTHES I'M WEARING FOR THE FIRST TIME ARE COMPLETELY SOAKED.
HE WON'T EVEN REPLY WITH E-MAIL.
HE WON'T PICK UP NO MATTER HOW MANY TIMES I CALL.

AH. KAORU-KUN!

WELL, THERE'S BEEN A MISTAKE AND WE CAN'T GET IN AS GUESTS.
WHAT'S UP?

OH.

Smile
THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL GET YOU IN.

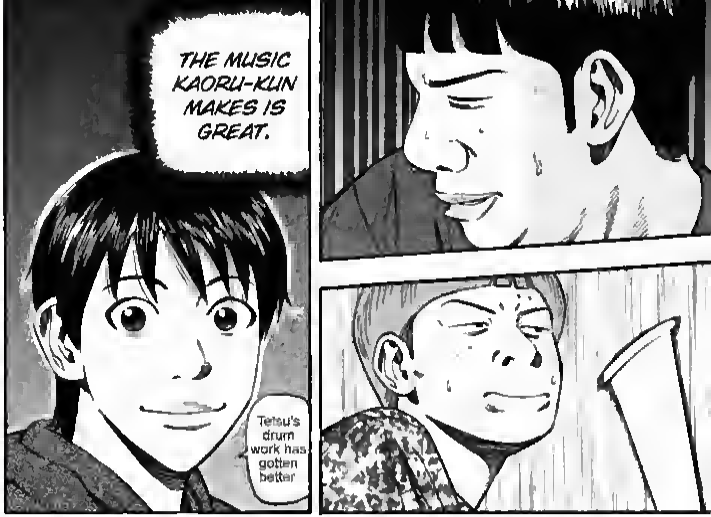

TODAY'S LI
YOU WENT TO GO BUY STUFF AT THE CONVENIENCE STORE, KAORU-KUN?
YEP.
PERSONALLY, AS THE CHINESE BOOKIE LEADER?

THERE'S THIS GUY THAT'S BECOMING A MAJOR BRAGGART.

Text waa

LIVERPO

WOW...
IT'S A 8:2 RATIO OF GIRLS TO GUYS.
YULITA IS ON VOCALS MORE OFTEN.

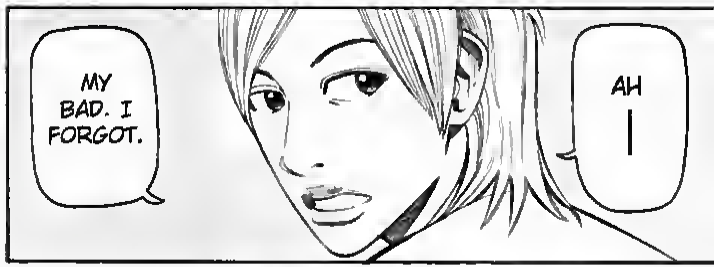

THE MUSIC KAORU-KUN MAKES IS GREAT.
Tetsu's drum work has gotten better

IF THE MICRO-PHONE FALLS OVER, THE SONG WILL END THERE.
WE ARE PLAYING WITH BOTH HANDS OCCUPIED.
I'M GOING TO GIVE A GENTLE WARNING.
IT'S OKAY TO GET EXCITED, BUT

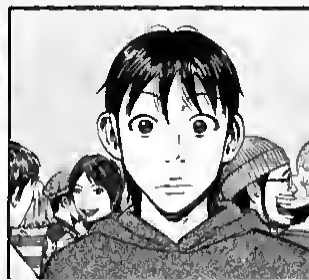
YUUTA. WORK HARD!
SHUT UP, IDIOTS !!
LISTEN PROP-ERLY DAMN IT!!
どっ
JUST KIDDING. MAKING ME LOOK BAD.

Noise
Noise
YUUTA
!

WE WEREN'T IN THE GUEST LIST...


MY BAD. I FORGOT.
AH
|

I CALLED YOU MANY TIMES, BUT YOU DIDN'T ANSWER AT ALL...



LIVERP
WELL, NO BIG DEAL.
YOU GOT IN.

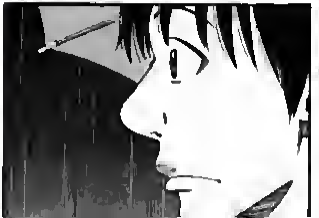
OH. LONG TIME NO SEE.
YUUITA-KUN, GREAT PERFOR-MANCE.
HOLD ON A SECOND THERE, YUUITA.
Bam
I GOT KOYUKI, WHO WAS OUT IN THE RAIN AND IN TROUBLE, IN HERE.

WE'LL GO!
HOW ABOUT WE PARTY?
HAHA-HA. THANKS.
YOU WERE GREAT. YOU WERE REALLY COOL.

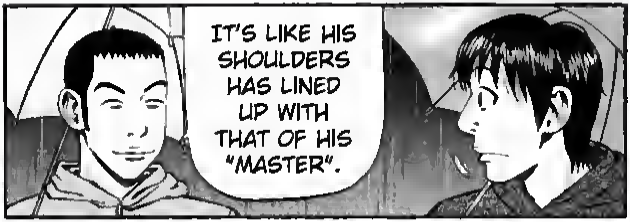
I DIDN'T THINK THAT HE WAS THAT KIND OF A PERSON ...

ZAAA

THEIR MINI-ALBUM IS DOING REALLY WELL.
CHINESE BOOKIE ARE HITTING IT BIG.



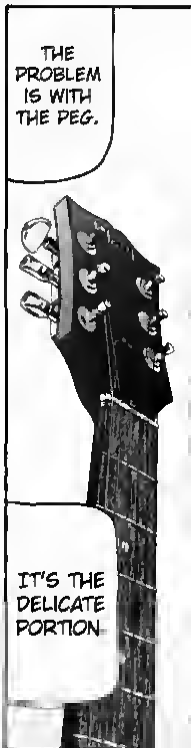
THE DENBA BROTHERS ARE STILL DOWN TO EARTH AS USUAL.


IT'S LIKE HIS SHOULDERS HAS LINED UP WITH THAT OF HIS "MASTER".

IT'S NOT GOOD SAYING BAD THINGS ABOUT YUUTA.
HE WAS JUST BUSY.

SAN DIEGO
イングヴェイ楽器
Ingvey Music Instrument

SINCE THE FRET IS ALREADY IN THIS CONDITION, IT'S BEST TO REPAIR IT.
THE NUT IS IN BAD CONDITION TOO.

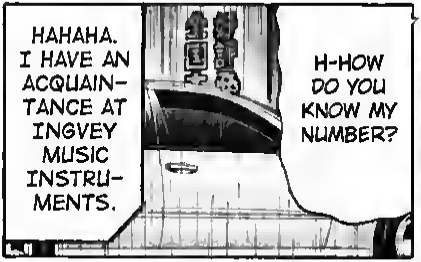

THE PROBLEM IS WITH THE PEG.
IT'S THE DELICATE PORTION

!!
IT'S BEST TO BUY A NEW GUITAR, JUST LIKE RYUUSUKE SUGGESTED.
WELL, CONSIDERING THE TOTAL COST, INCLUDING MAINTENANCE,

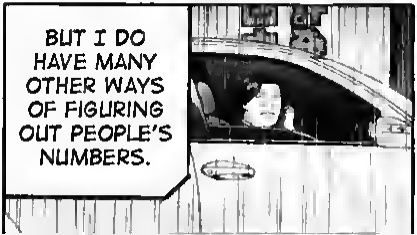
H-HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?
F-FIFTY THOU-SAND?!
HMMM. EVEN IF IT'S AT A BUDDY PRICE, IT'D BE FIFTY THOUSAND YEN.
Y-YEP.
WELL, THINK ABOUT IT HARD AND COME BACK.
"NON-LISTED NUMBER"?
Ah man, it's raining today again

ON THE OTHER SIDE, FACING THE OPPOSITE DIRECTION FROM YOU, KOYUKI-KUN.

THE MERCEDES WITH THE HAZARD OUT.
K.S


HAHAHA. I HAVE AN ACQUAIN-TANCE AT INGVEY MUSIC INSTRU-MENTS.
H-HOW DO YOU KNOW MY NUMBER?

ZAAA


BUT I DO HAVE MANY OTHER WAYS OF FIGURING OUT PEOPLE'S NUMBERS.

JUST LIKE YESTERDAY, THE RAIN WON'T STOP UNTIL MORNING
IF YOU LIKE, WANT TO TAKE A RIDE?
ABOUT TO GO HOME.
WHERE ARE YOU HEADING TO RIGHT NOW?
ZAAAA
I SAW YOUR LIVE AT THE MARQUEE.
I'M NOT ANYONE SUSPI-CIOUS.
IN THIS RAIN?
I WANT US TO TALK ABOUT SOMETHING VERY IMPORTANT. SO PLEASE.
I WONDER IF HE'S FROM A MAJOR LABEL...

NO NEED TO BE NERVOUS. IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO KIDNAP YOU.
ARE YOU HUNGRY ?
Smile
Smile
UM... I'M SORRY FOR BEING RUDE...
I'M HAPPY THAT YOU ARE OFFERING TO GIVE US AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAJOR,
BUT I DON'T THINK WE SHOULD ENTER INTO A CONTRACT.

THE TRUTH IS, WE DON'T HAVE GOOD RELATIONS WITH A CERTAIN BIG PRODUCER...
I'M NOT SURE. I'VE NEVER MET THE PERSON.
NO, NO.
OH. I SEE. BASICALLY, YOU GUYS HAVE A BRUTE AS AN ENEMY IN THE INDUSTRY.
ZA
A
A
A

NO. IT'S IMPOR-TANT TO ME.
WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE THE GUITAR IN THE CAR?
ACTUALLY, THIS IS SO THAT I CAN LEAVE AT ANY TIME.

manor

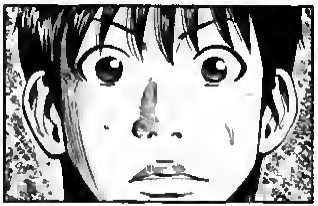
THIS PLACE IS ALL BOOKED 2-3 MONTHS IN ADVANCE.
MAYBE.
I THINK I'VE SEEN THIS PLACE ON TV...

Smile
Smile
WE DON'T NEED THAT. WE JUST GO INTO THE VIP ROOM AT THE BACK.

WHAT? YOU HAVE THIS PLACE RESERVED TODAY?

I-I CAN GET IN LOOKING LIKE THIS?
SURE!

Twitch
Twitch
MAJOR RECORD COMPA-NIES ARE AMAZING...

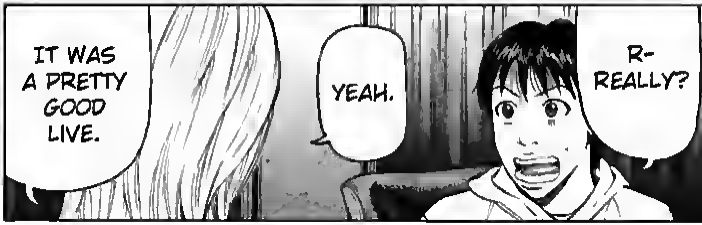


YO.

PLEASE SIT.
LET'S PUT THE GUITAR OVER THERE.

Drag
EVEN THE CLOTHES YOU'RE WEARING ARE CHEAP.
YOU LOOK SO MUCH PUNIER THAN ON STAGE.
HERE'S THE MENU.
NICE TO MEET ME?
W-WHAT'S WITH THIS SITUATION ?
N-NICE TO MEET YOU.
I SEE. WELL, THIS IS THE FIRST TIME WE ACTUALLY TALKED FACE TO FACE.

!!
I WENT TO SEE THAT EVENT.
Click
36TH... WAS IT?


IT WAS A PRETTY GOOD LIVE.
YEAH.
R-REALLY?

DURING DYING BREED'S SECRET LIVE WHERE YOU WERE PULLED UP AND...
GRATEFUL SOUND S!
I'VE ALSO SEEN GLIMPSE OF OTHERS.

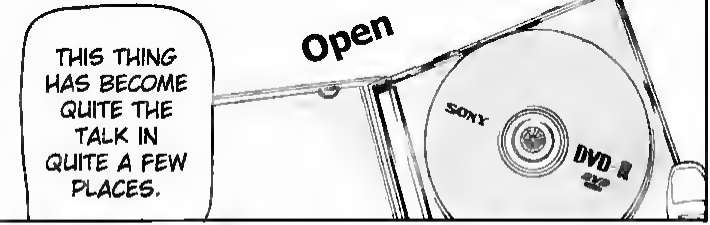
AND THAT'S WHEN IT STARTED. WHEN YOU GUYS MADE RAN-SAN YOUR ENEMY.
WELL, MOST OF THEM WERE SOME BAD EXPERIENCES FOR ME.
MY POWERS ARE INFLUENTIAL IN QUITE A FEW PLACES.
THE PLACES WHERE YOU GUYS CAN PERFORM ARE LIMITED, SO IT MUST BE TIRING.
THE SUMMER FESTIVAL THAT WAS SUDDENLY CANCELLED... FOR EXAMPLE.

YOU WANT TO SUCCEED, RIGHT?
AT THIS RATE, YOUR GUYS' SUCCESS IS IMPOSSI-BLE.
YOU GUYS WILL ALWAYS CONTINUE TO GO THROUGH HARDSHIPS.

WATCH OUT!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?! WATER, WATER !!
...
MOVE THE CANDLE !!
ゴゴゴゴ
WOAH !

S-SORRY.
wa wa
YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE NERVOUS.
smile smile
THIS KID'S HILARIOUS.
ku ku ku
I HEARD THAT THE BECK GUITARIST USED TO PLAY WITH YOU, EIJI.
THE BAND WAS CALLED SERIAL MAMA...
IT WASN'T MUCH OF A BAND.
OH? BUT IT SEEMS LIKE THERE'S A HUGE GAP BETWEEN YOU TWO NOW.

KOYUKI ..... WAS IT ?
WOULD YOU TELL ME ONE THING?
WHAT DID YOU DO TO GET JIM WALSH TO PROMOTE YOU GUYS ?
WOAH.
DID YOU HAPPEN TO SEE IT?
SLIDE
DID I HAPPEN TO?

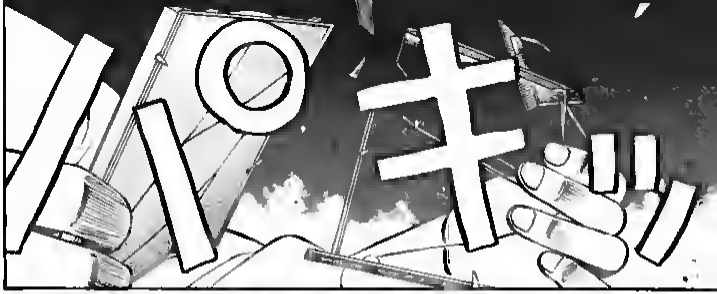

THIS THING HAS BECOME QUITE THE TALK IN QUITE A FEW PLACES.
Open
SONY
DVD R

HUH? BACK-HANDED TRICK?

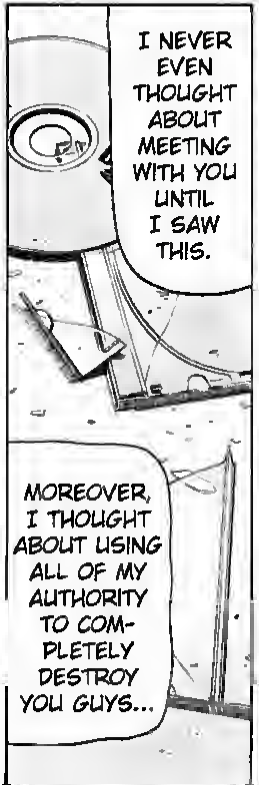
I HEARD KAWAKUBO, WHO WAS ON THE STONE PROJECT, IS WITH YOU GUYS.
WHAT KIND OF BACK-HANDED TRICK DID HE USE?

DON'T PLAY STUPID WITH ME.
JIM WALSH REFUSED THE HUGE AMOUNT I OFFERED.

MAYBE IT HAD TO DO WITH CHIBA-KUN SAYING SOMETHING WITHOUT THINKING ABOUT HIS OWN LIFE.
N-NOW THAT I THINK ABOUT IT...


バキッ

Sfx. Crack


I NEVER EVEN THOUGHT ABOUT MEETING WITH YOU UNTIL I SAW THIS.
MOREOVER, I THOUGHT ABOUT USING ALL OF MY AUTHORITY TO COMPLETELY DESTROY YOU GUYS...

Clash
!!

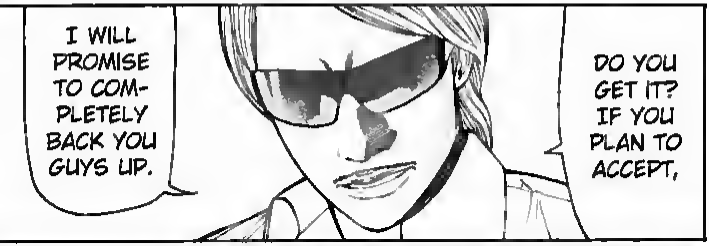
DON'T MESS WITH ME.

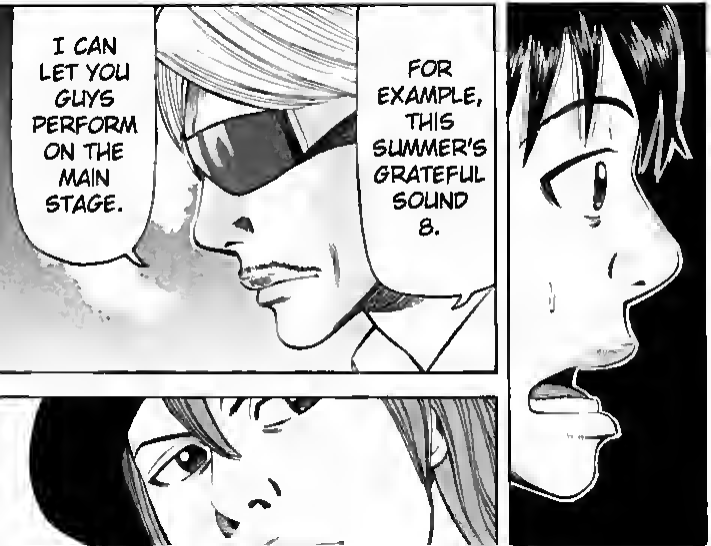
BUT YOU SEE...
WHEN I SAW IT...
UN-WILLINGLY ...
I GOT GOOSE-BUMPS!
HIS TALENT IS WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE REAL THING.
...I ASKED FOR YOU TO COME AS A FINAL MEASURE.

IF YOU GUYS LOWER YOUR HEADS TO ME AND APOLOGIZE, I WILL LET EVERYTHING THAT HAS HAPPENED SLIDE.
Fuu

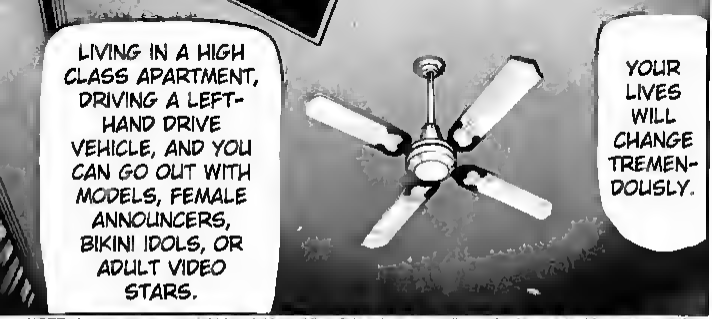
MOST LIKELY,
THAT IS YOUR GUYS' ONLY ROAD TO SURVIVAL ...

WHAT ?
THAT'S MY POLICY.
IN ORDER TO DO WHAT'S GOOD FOR BUSINESS, IT'S BEST TO CONTROL THE SMALL EMOTIONS.

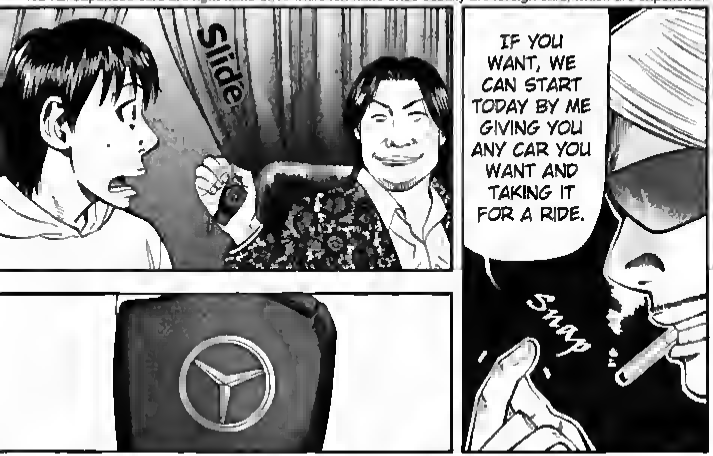

I WILL PROMISE TO COMPLETELY BACK YOU GUYS UP.
DO YOU GET IT? IF YOU PLAN TO ACCEPT,


I CAN LET YOU GUYS PERFORM ON THE MAIN STAGE.
FOR EXAMPLE, THIS SUMMER'S GRATEFUL SOUND 8.

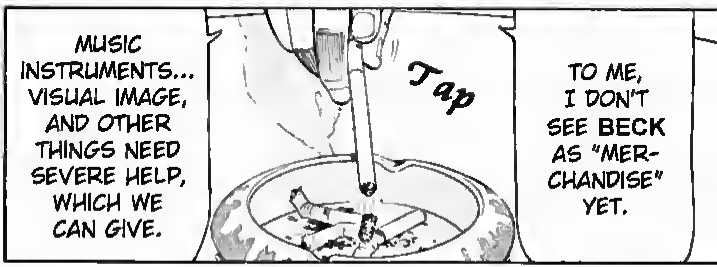
WHAT I'M TELLING YOU, IS THAT YOU GUYS WILL BE WORKING WITH ME AS YOUR PRODUCER, AND YOU GUYS WILL MAJOR ON THE FIELD.
SO YOU UNDER-STAND THE MEANING OF ME BACKING YOU UP?
BUT AT THIS MOMENT, YOU GUYS AREN'T ABLE TO SHOW IT TO THE FULLEST.
THAT MUSIC VIDEO WILL BECOME THIS YEAR'S BIGGEST TALK, WITHOUT A DOUBT.
THERE ARE BANDS ALL OVER JAPAN THAT WANT TO BE PRO-DUCED BY RAN-SAN. THIS IS AN EXCELLENT OPPORTUNITY.
IF YOU LEAVE IT TO ME, IT'LL BE ALL RIGHT.

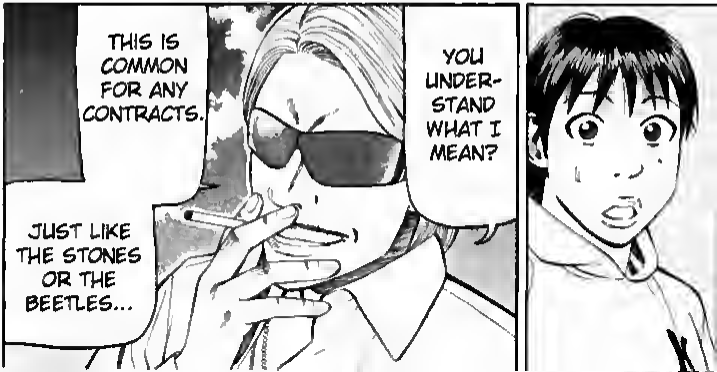

LIVING IN A HIGH CLASS APARTMENT, DRIVING A LEFT-HAND DRIVE VEHICLE, AND YOU CAN GO OUT WITH MODELS, FEMALE ANNOUNCERS, BIKINI IDOLS, OR ADULT VIDEO STARS.
YOUR LIVES WILL CHANGE TREMENDOUSLY.

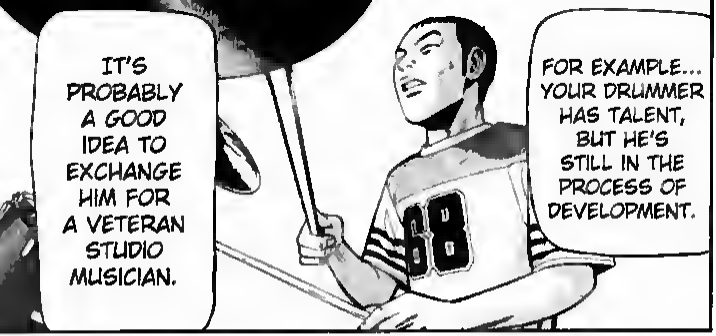
NOTE. Japanese cars are right-hand drive while left-hand ones usually are foreign cars, which are expensive.



THE SUB-STANTIAL LEADER OF THE BAND IS TAIRA-KUN, RIGHT?
NOT ALL WOULD HAVE TO COME.
T-THEY'RE ALL WORKING... SO THEY ALL WON'T BE ABLE TO GATHER.
?


MUSIC INSTRUMENTS... VISUAL IMAGE, AND OTHER THINGS NEED SEVERE HELP, WHICH WE CAN GIVE.
Tap
TO ME, I DON'T SEE BECK AS "MER-CHANDISE" YET.

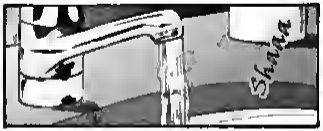

THIS IS COMMON FOR ANY CONTRACTS.
JUST LIKE THE STONES OR THE BEETLES...
YOU UNDER-STAND WHAT I MEAN?

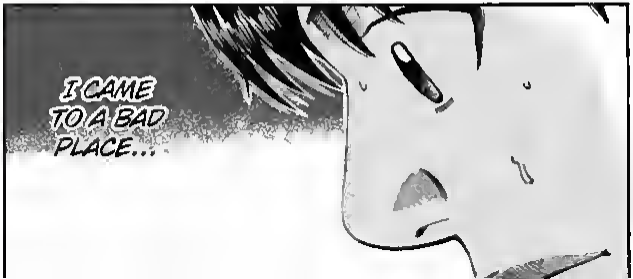

IT'S PROBABLY A GOOD IDEA TO EXCHANGE HIM FOR A VETERAN STUDIO MUSICIAN.
FOR EXAMPLE... YOUR DRUMMER HAS TALENT, BUT HE'S STILL IN THE PROCESS OF DEVELOPMENT.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO APOLO-GIZE TODAY.
YOU CAN DISCUSS WITH EVERYONE CARE-FULLY FIRST.
I DON'T LIKE HIM.
HE'LL BE FIRED RIGHT AWAY.
ALSO, THAT AFRO MC!

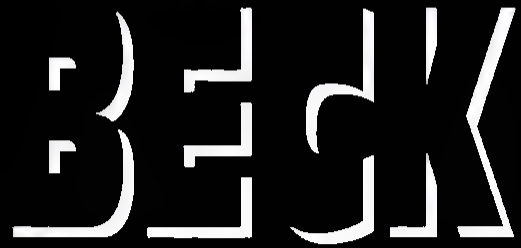
E-
EXCUSE
ME, BUT
...
.....
!!

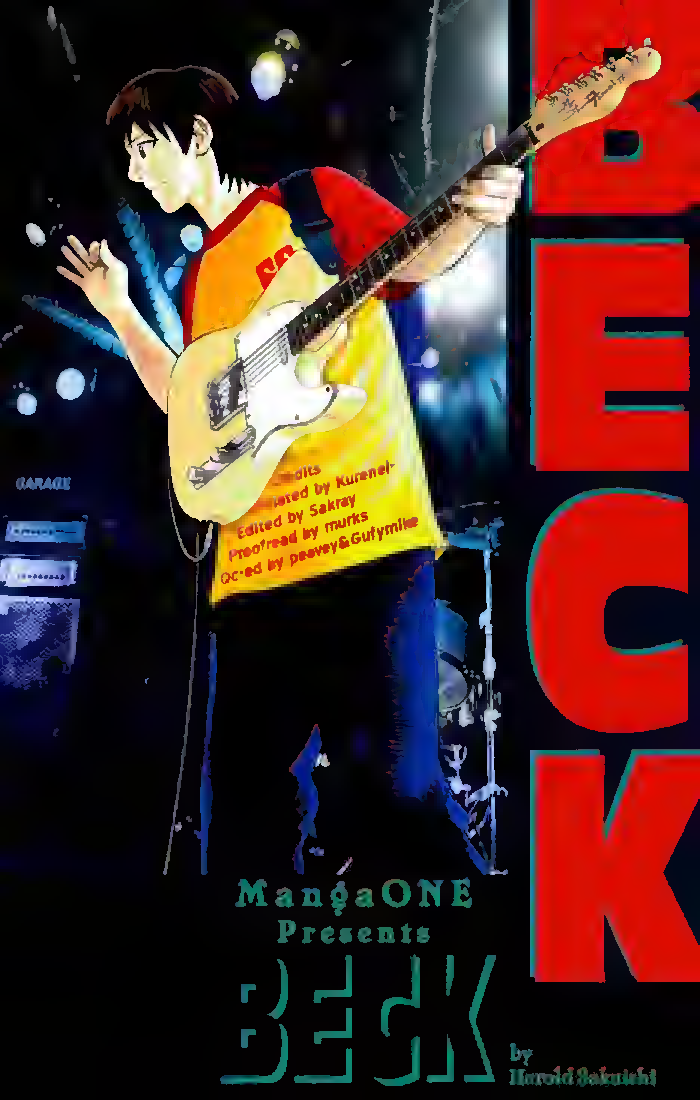
CAN I GO TO THE REST-ROOM?
Crack


Shaaa


I CAME TO A BAD PLACE...

Harold Sakuishi
Presents




BECK
MangaONE
Presents
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